

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 2, 2005. Claims 1 to 5, 7, 16 to 20, 22, 31 to 35, 37, 46 to 50, 52 and 54 to 60 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 16, 31, and 46 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Non-elected Claims 8 to 15, 23 to 30, 38 to 45 and 53 to 60 have been cancelled so as to place the application in better condition for allowance.

Claims 46 to 50 and 52 were objected to for allegedly being duplicates of Claims 31 to 35 and 37, respectively. The objections are respectfully traversed since the two sets of claims are directed to different statutory subject matter. Specifically, Claims 31 to 35 and 37 are directed to a statutory invention in the form of a computer readable memory medium, while Claims 46 to 50 and 52 are directed to a statutory invention in the form of a computer program, which is embodied on a storage medium. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objections is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 to 5, 7, 16 to 20, 22, 31 to 35, 37, 46 to 50 and 52 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,089,765 (Mori) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,567,180 (Kageyama). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention relates to reprinting of a print job. According to one aspect of the invention, a server stores both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data of a print job as reservation job data and manages the reservation job data even after a print data for the print job is output to a printing apparatus. Then, if there is a request to reprint the data, the server can simply look at

attributes of the reprint request and compare them with the reservation data to determine if they are the same. If so, then the stored device-dependent-format data can simply be output to the printing apparatus by the server. If not, then the server can send the stored device-independent-format data to an information processing apparatus to be processed by a printer driver into device-dependent-format data so it can then be reprinted.

Referring specifically to the claims, amended independent Claim 1 is a print server apparatus that receives a print job to be printed from an information processing apparatus through a network, the printer server apparatus comprising reservation job management means for storing, in a memory, both device-independent-format data and device-dependent-format data of the print job as reservation job data, received from the information processing apparatus, and managing the reservation job data even after print data for the print job is output to a printing apparatus, determination means for determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for the reservation job data managed by the reservation job management means if a reprint request is received from the information processing apparatus, and output control means for outputting the device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus, if the determination means determines that the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination, if the determination means determines that the attributes are the same, wherein the device-dependent-format data is data generated by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination, and the device-independent-format data is data generated prior to a generation process by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination.

Amended independent Claims 16, 31 and 46 are method, memory medium and computer program claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 1.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention. More particularly, with regard to Claims 1, 16, 31 and 46, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a server determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data that comprises both device-dependent-format data generated by a printer driver corresponding to an output destination and device-independent-format data that is data generated prior to a generation process by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination if a reprint request is received from the information processing apparatus, and outputting the device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus if the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination if the attributes are the same.

Mori is merely seen to teach a print system comprising a computer and a printer, where the computer retransmits print data stored in the computer or regenerated in the computer to the printer in response to a retransmission request from the printer. What is taught in Mori is storing the device-dependent-format data in the computer, but Mori is not seen to teach storing device-independent-format data. Moreover, Mori is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of a server determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data that comprises both device-dependent-format data generated by a printer driver corresponding to an output destination and device-independent-format data that is data generated prior to a generation process by a printer

driver corresponding to the output destination if a reprint request is received from the information processing apparatus, and outputting the device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus if the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination if the attributes are the same.

Kageyama is merely seen to disclose storing a document in computer 300 in an archive 2200 of printer controller 200. The format of the document is selected from PDL format, editing format, and dot image format. When the editing request program of the computer issues a request for editing to the printer controller, a document is sent in the editing format from the printer controller to the computer. When the computer issues an instruction for printing to the printer controller, the printer controller reads a document in the PDL format or the dot image format and causes the printer engine to print the document. However, Kageyama is not seen to disclose or to suggest anything that, when combined with Mori, would have resulted in at least the feature of a server determining whether attributes are different based on a printer driver name for an output destination for reprint and a printer driver name for reservation job data that comprises both device-dependent-format data generated by a printer driver corresponding to an output destination and device-independent-format data that is data generated prior to a generation process by a printer driver corresponding to the output destination if a reprint request is received from the information processing apparatus, and outputting the device-independent-format data to the information processing apparatus if the attributes are different, while outputting the device-dependent-format data to the output destination if the attributes are the same.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is

believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

Applicant respectfully requests an interview with the Examiner to discuss the foregoing patentable features of the invention. Accordingly, should the Examiner decide to maintain any part of the current rejections, Applicant requests that the Examiner contact Applicant's undersigned representative to schedule an interview prior to the Examiner issuing an action in this case.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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